

WEST END IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES.

At last the crooked returns from North Carolina have settled and thickened into something not altogether destitute of fixity and substance. Some report has now been received from all the counties except Ashe, Graham (new county) and Watauga. Official returns from 55 of the 93 have reached us. The result is no longer doubtful. Caldwell's majority, according to the following returns and estimates is 1,293—not very large, but enough.

EPISODES OF THE ELECTION.
STATEMENTS OF THE COLORED CANVASSERS—
UNSCRUPULOUS DEVICES OF ADMINISTRA-
TION LEADERS—WHY THE OFFICIAL RE-
TURNS WERE WITHHELD.

W. M. Saunders and Walter Sorrell of Maryland and Geo. W. Hutton of Washington, the colored canvassers, called yesterday at the Liberal Republican National Executive headquarters, at the Glenham Hotel. They came directly from North Carolina, and gave the following account of the canvass:

Upon our arrival in North Carolina that the more ignorant of the colored men were massed under the control of the office-holders and the emissaries of Gen. Grant, and were left entirely upon the reflection of Gen. Grant. There is, however, a very respectable minority of the colored people, the heads of families, who are not so easily led by the passions and the suggestions of the past records of the respective candidates for the Presidency. Upon this class we had no difficulty in making an impression. To the four campaign documents, and having some doubts as to the sincerity of the Administration, declined to vote at all on Aug. 1. This party numbered twenty-five thousand, or twenty per cent. of the whole. Among the common mass of negroes we found absolute ignorance of the past records of Mr. Greeley, Senator Sumner, and the other candidates. Where there was knowledge exhibited it was held in awe by the Radical leaders by means of intimidation, terrorism, and assurances of a future reformation of the Government.

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WASHINGTON.

THE ALBEMARLE PRIZE MONEY AGAIN—CHILDREN
HUNTERS OF SECRETARY DELAND—THE POLITICAL
POSITION OF WM. D. KELLY.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Aug. 7, 1872.

It will be recollected that Lieut. Wm. B. Cushing and a boat's crew were allowed a sum of prize money, amounting to \$75,000, for the destruction of the rebel raider Albemarle during the war. After that distribution, Commander Cushing claimed that in estimating the value of the raider his armament was not taken into account, and Congress authorized a Commission to be appointed to inquire into the subject.

This Commission was recently assembled, by order of the Secretary of the Navy, and decided that the value of the Albemarle was \$285,000. This additional \$200,000 will be distributed among the crew of the cutter and the crew of the vessel. Some of the officers and men on board of the other vessels comprising the squadron in the Sound at that time, and including the Fourth Assistant of the Treasury to be recognized as participants in this distribution, but it has been decided that the whole sum will be divided among Commander Cushing and the crew of the picket boat that destroyed the raider.

A telegram received at the Interior Department to-day, from Secretary Delano's family, at Mount Vernon, Ohio, stating that the Secretary was lying very ill, and fears were entertained of his speedy recovery. His son John Delano, the Chief Clerk of the Department, has been sent to his bedside, and a physician has been telegraphed to his home. Others of the family were also called by the illness of the Secretary.

The Administration people here are in a state of great anxiety over the nomination of Kelley of Philadelphia in the caucus. It is known that for some time Mr. Kelley has never discussed his opinion that Grantism would ruin the Republican party; and in the last days of the session of Congress he pointedly refused to be driven into a corrupt or unconstitutional attempt to force the "bayonet act" through the House. In the face of all these facts, the Republicans of the Tenth District of Pennsylvania re-nominated Kelley for Congress at the very close of the year, when he is still in Colorado, and has not taken notice of his renomination. He is known to be in sympathy with the Administration, and has been called by the "Hartranft" in nomination, and his silence is worrying the Grant men beyond expression. They don't care to draw out the matter, and they are not sure that Kelley dare not threaten to throw him overboard, because he has not accepted their nomination, they know he would not do so, and they are not sure that Kelley has the overwhelming majority. This is evident from the fact that on Monday last, at a meeting of the Democratic Centralizing Convention, in Mr. Kelley's district, several delegates were elected, who are in sympathy with the movement for reform, and recommending him to the support of Democratic and Liberal Republicans, such as Mr. McKim, Mr. Farnsworth, Mr. Farnsworth, and Gov. Blair.

A COLORED MAN DEFENDS SUMNER.
To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Charles Sumner needs no defense at my hand as to the integrity of his motives, but I would have him understood. Mr. Blaine's letter to Mr. Sumner suggests comment, but I will make only one criticism. In this letter I have noticed, as I have in other instances, with much regret, the existence of a disposition to ridicule and discourage those outside of the Republican party who manifest a leaning toward its principles; a desire to drive them off, rather than welcome them to a communal. As a colored man, as a lover of my country, I shall always revere Charles Sumner. That negro is an ingrate

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the amendment scheme has been denounced and abandoned; the duty of the General Government fully to secure the citizen in his civil rights has been lately affirmed by the National Republican Convention; the rights of the colored man in each position have been everywhere have been virulently condemned. Thus why should he be punished in the interest of those who opposed him? Why should he have been removed from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Relations—an act for which the Republican members of the Senate are responsible. Being right, why should other indignities have been heaped upon him? As a colored man, I am proud to name him, and offering on the altar of peace.

ANGLO-AMERICAN,
2100-2104, A. S. 1912.

BEAUTIFYING THE CITY.

THREE GRAND SCHEMES TO IMPROVE THE WEST END.

TWO SERPENTINE ROADS PROJECTED ALONG THE RIDGE FROM FORT WASHINGTON TO TUBBY HOOK—KINGSBRIDGE ROAD TO BE WIDENED—THE PROBABLE COST \$5,000,000 OR \$6,000,000, HALF OF WHICH IS TO BE BORNE BY THE CITY AT LARGE—CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY AND POSSIBLE DELAY IN THE WORK—FULL LIST OF PROPERTY-OWNERS INTERESTED IN THE SCHEMES.

Three schemes are now under consideration for the opening of boulevards above One-hundred-and-fifty-fifth-st., which will involve the appropriation of property variously estimated at from \$5,000,000 to \$50,000,000, one-half of which will undoubtedly go into the general tax-levy, to be assessed upon property-holder at large, while the remainder will be assessed "for benefit" upon the owners of land whose properties within certain limits, to be fixed by the Commission

1. The extension of the Boulevard from its present terminus at One-hundred-and-fifty-sixth-st. to the Kingsbridge Road at its junction with Inwood-st. The proposed extension leaves the line of the Kingsbridge Road and runs in a tortuous line north of west nearly three-fourths of mile; then north in a winding course about one mile and three-fourths; then irregularly south-east three-fourths of a mile.

II. A road ten feet in width, which leaves the line of Kingsbridge Road at One-hundred-and-sixtieth-st., runs north of west about three-eighths of a mile, then follows the course of the proposed extended Boulevard nearly to Inwood-st., and turning serpentine, crossing twice the property of Mr. Joseph H. Hayes and Messrs. Flint and Jones, unites with the Kingsbridge Road near the junction of the northern terminus of the Boulevard.

III. The widening of the Kingsbridge Road from its lower terminus to the Harlem River, a distance of five miles.

The accompanying map will show the course of the three roads. They pass through the lands of the person whose property is esteemed extremely valuable, and will undoubtedly be greatly enhanced by the improvement.

ORIGIN OF THE BOULEVARD EXTENSION.
The resolution to extend the Boulevard from One-hundred-and-fifty-ninth-st. to Inwood-st., as described in the first paragraph, originated with the Central Park Commissioners. Petitions signed by numerous persons owning property lying between Tenth-ave., the Kingsbridge Road and the Hudson River were sent to the Commissioners, urging them to take measures to extend the Boulevard through the lands of the petitioners; and during the month of April, 1872, Wm. H. Grant, civil engineer, after consulting with some of the petitioners, and to the purpose of the petitioners, proposed course and presented it to the Commissioners. On June 5, 1872, the Park Commissioners held a meeting, and after considerable discussion passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the City Engineer, under and by virtue of the provision of an act entitled, "An act to provide for the laying out and improving of certain portions of the City and County of New York," and of the provisions of the City Charter, Chapter 22 of the Laws of the City of New York, of the Department of Public Parks, hereby lay out the streets and roads within that part of the City of New-York to the northward of the southern line of the City of New-York, and to the northward of the line of the said city, which are shown by red color and figures of the map thereof, dated New-York, May 1, 1872, and signed by Wm. H. Grant, civil and topographical engineer, and in the said map, the streets and roads are extended in the direction of the said streets and roads to be laid out, as shown on said map, seeming to said Board of Commissioners that the said streets and roads are to be laid out, and the large black red on said map are those required for the said streets and roads laid out as aforesaid, and that the President of said Board of Commissioners, and the City Engineer, are authorized to cause the said streets and roads to be surveyed and designated by proper monuments, and also cause to be prepared and submit to this Board profiles and grades of the said streets and roads.

In accordance with the determination of the Commissioners, survey maps were prepared by General Charles K. Graham, engineer. A proposition was then made in the Park Commission to take the next step in order, which was for the Commissioners to send a petition to the Supreme Court asking for the appointment of Commissioners of Estimate and Assessment. But a law of the last Legislature, which had been overlooked, gave the power to lay out avenues and boulevards as Major-General M. Van Norcaine claimed that the Commission of Major-General M. Van Norcaine that further action in the matter should emanate from his office. As a consequence of this conflict of authority no further steps have been taken, the Commissioners of Parks as well as the Public Works awaiting the opinion of Mr. O'Grannan, Corporation Counsel, who was appealed to some time ago for an opinion on the matter. The

Council's decision was given yesterday in a letter which he addressed to Mr. Van Nort. A copy of which will be found in this issue. It will be seen that he is of the opinion that the Department of Public Works have sole power to act, but in the opinion of William B. Martin, lawyer, President of the West Side Association and a large real estate owner in the district through which the projected road is to run, and several other real estate owners and of lawyers well informed on the subject, the application for the appointment of Commissioners should properly be made by the Park Commissioners, upon whom alone, it is claimed, the duty of taking the initial steps devolves.

MR. O'GORMAN'S OPINION—THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ONLY AUTHORIZED.

The Hon. G. M. VAN NORT, Commissioner of Public Works.

DEAR SIR: IN ANSWER to your letter of July 30, 1874, regarding your opinion in relation to the power and duties of the Department of Public Works, under section 7, chapter 372, Laws of 1872, in the matter of making application for the appointment of commissioners for extending the limits of the Public Works Department, in the acquisition of title to the streets, roads, and avenues above Fifty-ninth-st. I beg leave say, by section 11 of chapter 260, Laws of 1874, it is provided that the Commissioners of Public Works have the right to exercise the power to acquire title in behalf of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty to all streets, avenues, roads, squares, and places above Fifty-ninth-st. The language of the statute

"The Board Commissioners of the Department of Public Parks shall have and possess exclusive power to acquire title in the name and on behalf of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Community of the City of New-York, in and to all public streets, avenues, roads, public squares and places laid out, or that may be laid out in all of that part of the City of New-York lying north of the East River, in and to all lands owned or controlled by the City of New-York, in and to all easements, and all proceedings subsequent thereto, the said Board of Commissioners shall have and possess all the powers and perform all the duties now, by law, conferred on and authorized to be performed by said Mayor, Aldermen, and Community of the City of New-York."

By Section 7 of Chapter 812, Laws 1912, it is provided as follows, to-wit:

"The management of Public Parks shall have and possess all the powers and functions heretofore and now possessed by the Department of Public Parks in relation to the Boulevard (road or public drive), streets, avenues, and roads above Fifty-ninth st., not embraced within the limits of any park or public place, and the Department of Public Parks in relation to the Boulevard (road or public drive), streets, avenues, and roads above Fifty-ninth st., not embraced within the limits thereof, are hereby transferred to and conferred upon the said Department of Public Parks."

I am of the opinion, that the Department of Public Parks has the exclusive power to make the necessary application to the court in the matter of extending the Boulevard, and to initiate the necessary proceedings for the opening of any street, avenue, or road above Fifty-

As to the validity of the statute, I have heretofore advised the committee that the statute is a valid expression of the legislative will, and does not contravene any limitation of the legislative power contained in the Constitution of the State. In this opinion, however, I have the misfortune to differ from counsel whose opinions are entitled to great weight. I, therefore, recommend that, in view of the magnitude of the improvement and the large assessments to result therefrom, and from abundant caution, the Department of Public Works and the Commissioners of the Corporation be requested to make a further investigation and report on the propriety of the appointment of Commissioners. Yours truly, RICHARD O'GORMAN, Counsel to the Corporation.

New-York, Aug. 7, 1872.

THE PRIVATE PROPERTY INVOLVED "FOR BENEFIT." The extension of the Boulevard, as shown on the map where it leaves Tenth-ave. at One-hundred-and-fiftieth-st., takes a northerly curve, running through the property of G. B. Grinnell in such a manner as to give him and the house erected on his land a fine frontage. The road then winds to the south so as to give his neighbor, Mr. W. A. Whitlock, two fine frontages; thence it defects to the north-west, cutting in two the property of Shepherd Knapp, and, passing through the grounds of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum and of the Institution for the Blind, makes a curve so as to bring the

handsome houses erected on the property of G. L. Ackerman and others to the front. Through the extensive grounds of Isaac B. Martin and his law-partner, Augustus F. Smith—whose property is bisected by the other proposed new road—the Boulevard winds its devious way and passes successfully through the property of Messrs. A. H. Rathbun, H. B. Perkins, Charles O'Connor and Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Connelly, until it reaches the property of the late James Gordon Bennett, who, it is understood, strenuously opposed the improvement. Thence the Boulevard will pass through the property of Messrs. James J. Randt and Joseph Potter and the estate of L. Childtenden, giving to each valuable double frontage. The adjoining property of Mr. A. T. Stewart is cut through on its northern side, and a winding course followed through the lands of Joe H. Hays and Flint and

Jones in such a manner as to greatly increase the value of their possessions.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE BOULEVARD.

Persons who are thought to be competent judges of the necessity of this whole ~~to~~ ^{to} say that this road if carried out will be done by the property-owners and at their expense, as it merely furnishes a private drive for the few and wealthy residents whose property is invaded, and will seldom be used by persons driving from One-hundred-and-fifty-first, to the Harlem River, as the Kings bridge road is the natural and direct route, and will be used exclusively for public purposes. It is stated that whatever the future needs of this thoroughfare may be, that present exigencies do not require its creation, and that many years will elapse in the ordinary course of improvement before the road is needed.

STAY IN YOUR ROAD, MASTER.

The same arguments are advanced in regard to the second enterprise mentioned above. This is the construction of a road 80 feet in width running from One hundred-and-sixtieth-st. in a course nearly parallel to the Boulevard and about midway between it and the Kingsbridge road to a point near the terminus of Inwood-st. with the latter. The story of this new scheme is as follows: Several property-owners whose land extended from the line of the proposed Boulevard to the Kingsbridge and who desired still further to increase the value of their land by bisecting their property in a similar manner as to give them additional frontages, petitioned the Department of Public Works a short time ago to lay out a new street having already signed up Commissioner Van Nort the necessity of taking immediate action, induced him to have drawings made in accordance with their wishes. The Commissioner before taking any definite steps received (July 3, 1892) another petition, of which the following is a copy:

The subscribers, owners of property on the line of, or adjacent to the proposed extension established west of the Kingsbridge road, and extending from One-hundred-and-fifty-ninth-st. to Inwood, are very desirous to have the extension of the Boulevard made, and to acquire title to and to open said road.

The speedy opening of this road will doubtless be a great convenience to the residents and the public.

New-York, July 2, 1892.

Wm. H. Knapp,	Juliet Hathorne,
Louis B. Roder,	H. H. Puckering,
Isaac P. Martin,	Wm. H. Hyatt,
John C. Smith,	Chas. C. Smith,
C. P. Buckeering,	E. K. Willard,
per I. P. Martin.	

Commissioner Van Nostr then wrote to Mr. Geo. H. Purser, Clerk of the Park Commissioners, asking him to have the drawings and a survey of the land made and deposited in the office of the Commissioner of the extension of the Boulevard. Mr. Purser replied that the Park Commissioners had already taken action in the matter of the Boulevard extension, and that he intended immediately to prepare the usual petition in the matter for the signature of the President of the Department of Public Parks. On July 25, Mr. Van Nostr wrote to Mr.

Pursue the following letter:

Geo. H. PUSEN, esq.—My Dear Sir:—Your letter favoring the extension of the Boulevard, is received. You say that you will "immediately prepare the usual petition in this matter for the signature of the residents of the Eastern Part of Paris."

By Section 7, chapter 872, laws of 1872, "The Department of Public Works shall have and exercise the power of opening, widening, straightening, or closing any street, alley, or public way, and of erecting, removing, or altering any park or public place, and all provisions of law conferring powers and devolving duties upon the Department of Public Works."

In accordance therewith, and with the opinion of the Corporation Council of the 26th June, I am under the necessity of declining to take any action in this matter. The Department in whose name the proceedings should be taken.

Yours kindly oblige me, also, with information relative to the condition of proceedings in the matter of opening streets between Fifth-street and Our-hundred-and-fifty-first-street, in the Eastern Part of Paris.

Respectfully,
Geo. H. VAN NOY,
Commissioner of Public Works.

Mr. Purser had an interview with Mr. Van Nort, stating that he could proceed no further for want of funds, which he claimed were refused by the Controller.

The proposed new road runs through the property of H. B. Perkins, W. Ward, J. H. Hyatt, and J. A. Haven, whose land does not extend to the proposed line of new Boulevard, and through the property of J. A. Haven, whose land does not extend to the proposed line of new Boulevard. The proposed new road is here and crosses the line of both roads: W. A. Whitbeck, Sheppard Knapp, M. Ward, Isaac B. Martin, Augustus F. Smith, A. H. Rathbone, G. A. Haven, J. J. Rand, Joseph Potter, Jas. Gordon Bennett, A. T. Stewart, Chas. O'Connor, estate of L. Chittenden, Joseph H. Hays, and Flint & Jones. As it passes through the lands of these persons, it divides them so as to bring nearly all the residences with frontages on the proposed road, and it, of course, proceeds with some view to the enhanced valuation of the property.

THE WIDENING OF KINGSBIDGE ROAD.

The resolution for the widening of Kingsbridge Road was passed by the Park Commissioners in March, 1870, and January, 1871, the Supreme Court named the following persons as Commissioners: Thomas J. Creamer, Henry Parsons, and James H. Coleman. The surveyors were immediately set to work to lay out the new road, but considerable delay was experienced as fences and even houses in many cases infringed on the road, and the previous surveys afforded no sure guide to the correct line of the old road. The road ranges from 40 to 60 feet in width, and the law requires it to be straightened and widened to the extent of 100 feet. The Commissioners have been delayed in their work partly on account of the illness of Gratz Coleman, who was compelled to resign a short time ago, and Jno. T. McGovern was appointed in his place. The surveys have, however, all been completed, and the Commissioners will next week advertise in the usual manner for the estimates of valuation to be made,

The general sentiment seems to be that there is actual necessity for the widening of this road, as this is the direct thoroughfare from the present terminus of the Boulevard at One-Hundred-and-fifty-fifth-st. to Kingsbridge, and is properly the continuation of Broadway. The widening will embrace a length of over five miles, and the estimated value of property taken is about \$2,000,000.

REAL ESTATE DEALERS' VIEWS ON THE PROJECTED IM-

PROVEMENTS.

Many real estate dealers have been visited by TRIBUNE reporters, and the following is a fair statement of their views:

The cost of the property to be taken for the prospective extension of the Boulevard would be at an average valuation of \$3.50 per city lot. This valuation allows for the cost of certain inflation of prices in view of the contemplated improvement, and should not be exceeded. Difficulties in the extension of the Boulevard would be avoided by the payment of the Commissioners and the time usually taken for making the awards and assessments and invariably carries the final report and its confirmation over until Spring or early Summer, whenever the real estate market develops its greatest activity. At that time, when almost every piece of available property is either in the market or open to purchase, prices are higher, and owners ask more than they would at any other season of the year. The appraisals of the Commissioners are made several months before the completion of the extension, and every season there is an additional

ance in the prices and values of so-called unimproved property. Naturally, under these circumstances, when the awards are finally declared they are objected to, and in many instances justly. There are other causes also that reflect upon the value of property, and which are entirely outside the jurisdiction of the board, and which would meet with objections and be paralled with proceedings to obstruct their action. A partial if incomplete remedy for this would be to make the report follow closely upon the determination of the awards, and at a time when owners holding property over and idle in their hands would not expect a valuation or demand a price which only the season or activity of the market would justify. The assessment of half of the cost of the proposed improvements on the city at large is justified by the fact that outside owners and real estate dealers are particularly interested in such developments upon the plea that the magnificent and elegant drives thus to be laid out enure to the benefit of every citizen.

Some real estate owners whose interests lie upon the East Side and other portions of the city do not concur in this opinion, and object to taxing their property to supply residents of the West Side with costly drives and elegant fronts upon which they are to lay out villa plots, and enhance the value of property on the line of the improvement largely in excess of the entire cost of the undertaking. That the city at large will participate in the pleasures of the new drives, or derive any benefit other than a natural pride in their possession is disputed.